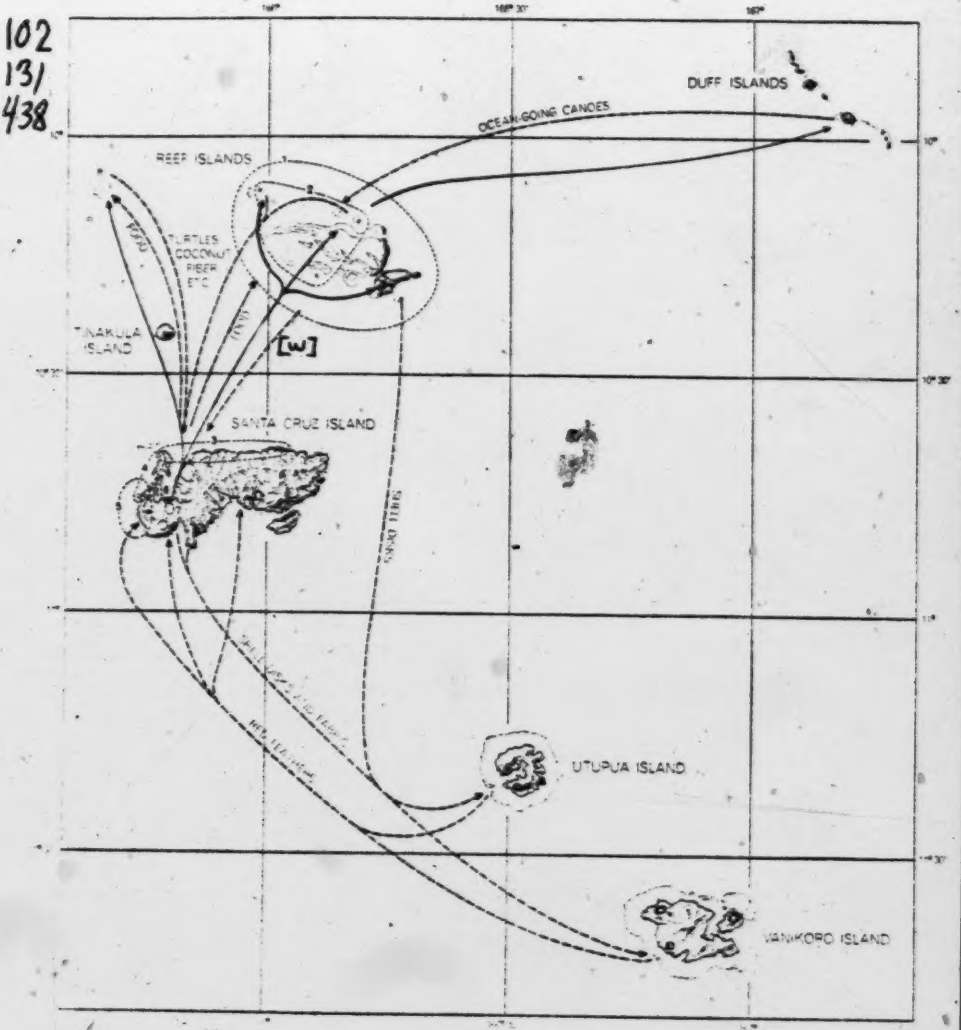
● 102
131
438



[Legend appears on p. 97(A)]

[& 96 (D)]

438 canoe building, weaving, the manufac-
463 turing of bark cloth, tools and orna-
ments—and currency making—are in-
digenous to one or another small island
or to one village on an island. Each
of these specialized industries and crafts
is regarded by its practitioners as a right
[428] inherited in the family line, and only
individuals in the proper line of suc-
cession may manufacture currency, go
shark fishing, build canoes or follow any
other trade.

438 This primitive division of labor re-
quires in many instances that raw or
semiprocessed materials be brought
from one district or island to another,
where the goods are finished for local
consumption or for export. In the busy
437 commerce of the interisland economy
goods are rarely bartered. They are sold
for currency: feather money or, increas-
ingly, Australian currency. For all who
participate the motivation of this trade
goes beyond the exchange of necessities
and native luxuries; the islanders buy
and sell for the express purpose of mak-
ing money. The accumulation of money
556 is the way to prestige. But since the cur-
rency itself is perishable, prestige finds
its tangible expression in spending as
well as in accumulation, above all in
helping to buy brides for members of
one's family and friends and in giving
[642] feasts. Prestige won in these ways is the
source of political power and authority.

436 The red-feather currency is made only
[438] on Santa Cruz Island. It is made on
[675] contract for a specific purchaser, who
negotiates individually with the three
different hereditary specialists whose
combined skills are required for its
[463] manufacture. The first specialist snares
the little jungle bird whose down sup-

438
● 102

1 EXPORTERS OF WOMEN
2 NAVIGATORS AND TRADERS
3 ARBORICULTURE
4 PIG BREEDING
5 SHARK FISHING
6 SPECIALIZED CRAFTS
7 TARO GROWING

——— RED-FEATHER CURRENCY
– – – – WOMEN [w]
——— GOODS AND PRODUCE
O FEATHERS AND SHINGLES
• CURRENCY BINDING

438 certain districts of Santa Cruz Island, cir-
culates there and in the Reefs and Duffs.

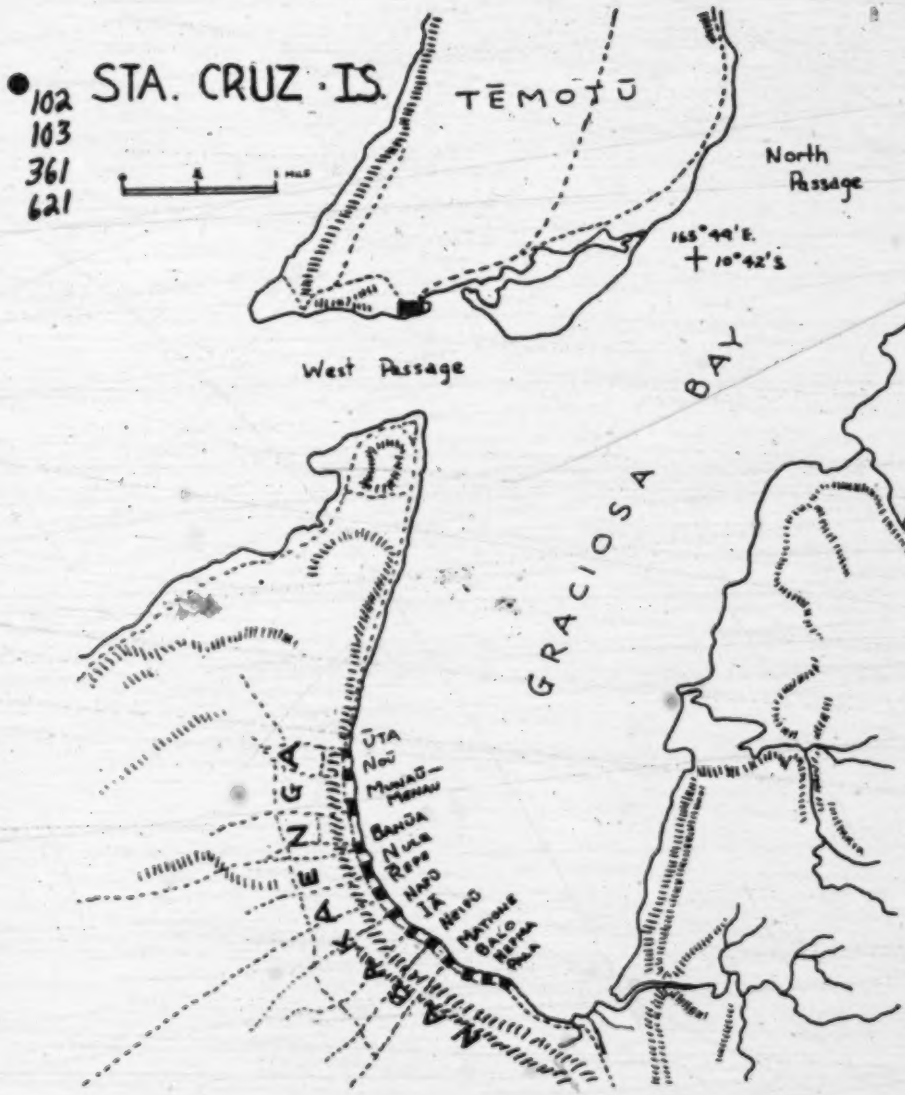
[497 (A)]

3:Davenport E-6 (1958-1960)1962
ON13 Santa Cruz ON13

102
131

SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS are a part of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate in the southwest Pacific. They were largely untouched by outside influences until after World War II.

[497 (B)]



102
103
361
621